

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for recovering data in a data processing system in which the recovery is carried out exclusively in predetermined units or installations,

wherein a recovery program is executed in the data processing system,

wherein a test procedure of predefined hardware features of the data processing system is executed,

wherein the recovery carried out is non-destructive, and

wherein all the features that are characteristic of the data and the system are stored in a control file of the recovery program.

2. A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the test procedure analyzes special hardware features of the data processing system that are stored in a predefined memory area of the data processing system and, if the special hardware features match with defaults in the control file, execution of the recovery program is continued and, if not, execution of the recovery program is aborted.

3. A method as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the special hardware features have been stored as data strings in BIOS of the data processing system.

4. A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the data to be recovered is at least in part encrypted data.

5. A method as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the data to be recovered is at least in part unencrypted data.

6. A method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the booting process and execution of the recovery program are decoupled.

7. A device for carrying out a method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the data processing system has a processor module, a working memory and additional storage and input media for executing the recovery program.

8. A software module for carrying out a method as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the software module is programmed to have program steps with which the recovery program is executed in the data processing system.

9. A data carrier with a software module as claimed in Claim 8, wherein the data carrier contains at least one of unencrypted and encrypted data to be recovered as well as the recovery program including the control file, and wherein the data carrier is configured to be read into the data processing system by means of a data input device.

10. A data carrier with a software module as claimed in Claim 9, wherein the data input device comprises a reader.

11. A data carrier according to Claim 9, wherein the data carrier contains both unencrypted data and encrypted data to be recovered.